

# THE SENTINEL-JOURNAL

Entered April 23, 1903, at Pickens, S. C., as Second-Class Matter, Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. XXXVIII.

PICKENS, S. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1908.

NO. 27.

## OUR SCHOOLS

By Prof. William H. Hand,  
University of South Carolina.

Paper Number Four.

Too Many Little Half-Supported Schools.—Sooner or later our people are going to have more comfortable and commodious school houses. Before the people put their money into permanent improvements, would it not be wise to reduce the number of schools in a great many places? A good four-room house costs less than four one-room houses of equal comfort and convenience. Sixty pupils in one building can be better taught and more easily taught than fifteen pupils each in four buildings. A four-teacher school will flourish where four one-teacher schools would struggle to keep alive.

In more than half the counties in the State are to be found dozens of schools with 10 and 12 pupils each. Not many weeks ago I visited a rural school with an enrollment of 11 pupils; three miles off was another school with 13 pupils, and in another direction was a third school with 14 pupils. The three teachers were paid \$35 each; each school house was cheap and ill equipped. In some districts six miles square are to be found as many as three white schools, each with a small number of pupils scattered from first reader to high school grades. A good many of the incorporated villages have school districts co-extensive with the incorporate limits. An accurate school district map of the State would look very much like a crazy quilt.

What is the remedy? Take the three schools cited above. Build a comfortable two-room house at a central point, and give the entire 38 pupils to two teachers. Each pupil would then have his recitation time doubled, for there would be in the consolidated school more grades, or classes, than there were in the most advanced of the three little schools. I am at once reminded that some of these children would have too far to walk. (It is marvelous how much trouble a father who walked four miles to school and brags about, makes over his child's walking one mile.) I grant that the consolidation puts the school too far for some to walk. What then? Take part of the money to transport these to the school. Prof. W. K. Tate of the Meminger Normal school, says, "It is better and cheaper to transport the distant children to the good school than to bring a poor school to the distant children." Yes, one good school is immeasurably better than three inferior schools.

The transportation of distant pupils is no new fad. Several years ago the Eastover district in Richland county threw five schools into one. The district runs four wagonettes, made for the purpose, to haul the distant children. Another instance: Three adjoining districts in Fairfield county, with a combined enrollment of 60 pupils, have consolidated their schools at Bethel, have erected a \$2,600 school house and are transporting all the children who live too far to walk. This consolidation gives the school enough pupils to establish a rural high school, with \$300 of State aid.

State Superintendents McMahan and Martain have zealously advocated the consolidation of small schools. Such a policy would encourage the building of better roads, while the transportation itself would protect the children in bad weather, and would protect the small children and the girls from insults or violence at the hands of tramps or thugs on the lonely country roads.

Neighborhood Jealousies and Quarrels.—These twin evils have done more to prevent and to destroy the efficiency of the common schools than any other two agencies in the land. It is difficult enough to maintain a good school where everybody works in harmony, and it is well nigh impossible where strife and division are. To listen to the petty contention, the sharp bickerings and the tales of discord in some communities makes one marvel that a school can exist in such a place. The petitions and the appeals which come before the various school boards are enough to make one turn pessimist. The worst of it all is that most of these contentions and

bickerings are childish and groundless and that they are usually begun and kept alive by men who have at heart but little interest in any school. In settling most of these disputes, Solomon's judgment between the two women claiming the child would be wholesome.

It is to these jealousies and quarrels that we owe two, three and even four little starving schools where but one ought to be. To them we owe the little district unable to support a school. Every influential local celebrity wished to have a school house at his front door or in his backyard. To these jealousies we owe most of the defeated local tax elections. Nearly all the local disputes over the teacher have their origin in neighborhood jealousies, and the baneful habit of constant change of teachers has its roots embedded here.

A certain district school is supported by ten families. All is well, but the school house stands on the south side of a little creek which about once a year reaches a depth of four feet. A and B suddenly conclude that this innocent stream is a menace to the lives of their children, and petition for a new district. The next session finds a little 20 by 20 foot hull of a school house on the north side of that creek, and a little lifeless school on each side of it. Or C's bad boy is punished by the teacher; straightway C raises the flag of secession, and proceeds to have his own little d-e-e-strice cut off. Or one of the local economists gets tired of paying a teacher \$40 a month, since his daughter would teach for \$30; the trustees will not yield to the economist; then the economist canvasses the district in the interest of a new set of trustees, with the economist as chairman. Or D and E are rival physicians already at odds; D says that Smith's boy has a contagious disease, and must be stopped from the school; E declares that the disease is only infectious, and that it would be silly to stop Smith's boy; the quarrel rages, the partisans array themselves, and down goes the local school tax proposed by the only really interested patron of the school. Or X begins to discuss a new school house; Y says that the old one is good enough, and that X is trying to lead the district; no new house is built, and the old one gradually rots down. Or, Miss Brown, the teacher, boards with the Smiths; the Joneses feel neglected, and begin to whisper it about that the teacher cannot solve Sallie Jones' problems or parse Sallie's sentences; the Smiths retaliate by asserting that the teacher is able to teach the whole Jones family; result—the anti-Smith faction's children are taught next session by Miss Sallie Jones herself. Once more, Mr. Brown, with much religious devotion to his church creed, demands that the new teacher shall be an X-ist; Perkins Y-ism at once begins to ferment while Stubbs declares that Z-ianism has been outraged, since there has not been an X-ian teacher in the school in five years. When the new teacher comes, is he to teach X-ist doctrine, Y-ist doctrine, Z-ian doctrine, or should he be a simple God-fearing man whose daily life will be a rebuke to these clamorous Pharisees? All this may sound like satire, but it is a mask rehearsal of a play where the curtain never falls. Cannot some neighborhoods see themselves in the play?

### Self Defense Established.

Spartanburg, Special.—Raymond Foster, colored, who shot and killed John Garrett, also colored at Fair Forest several weeks ago was tried in Court of Sessions on the charge of murder. The defendant proved self defense and the jury wasn't long in returning a verdict of not guilty. Foster was represented by Sandlers & Depass.

### Liquor Found in Beef Market.

Spartanburg, Special.—The beef market and restaurant of J. J. Spann located on Main street, was raided Saturday afternoon by the police and a barrel containing one hundred pints of liquor was found in the beef market. Spann claims that he alone with others ordered the stuff. This is the biggest haul the police have made in some time.

## MARCH OF SCIENCE

### The President Addresses the Tuberculosis Congress

#### PRAISES GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS

Great Meeting of Scientists Adjourns to Assemble Next at Rome—President Speaks.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The International Tuberculosis Congress, which has been in session here closed Saturday to meet next in Rome.

One of the most pleasant surprises of the closing scenes of the congress was the appearance for the first time during its proceedings of President Roosevelt. In a characteristic address President Roosevelt paid a notable tribute to the assemblage of so many scientists of international reputation. The President spoke in part as follows:

"It is difficult for us to realize the extraordinary changes, the extraordinary progress, in certain lines of social endeavor during the last two or three generations; and in no other manifestation of human activity have the changes been quite so far-reaching as in the ability to grapple with disease. It is not so very long, measuring time by history, since the attitude of man towards a disease such as that of consumption was one of helpless acquiescence in what he considered to be the mandates of a supernatural power. It is but a short time since even the most gifted members of the medical profession knew as little as any layman of the real cause of a disease like this, and therefore necessarily of the remedies to be invoked to overcome it.

"Take, for instance, the work that the United States government is now doing in Panama. The Isthmus of Panama, which was a by-word for fatal disease, has become well-nigh a sanatorium; and it has become so because the investigations of certain medical men which enabled them to find out the real causes of certain diseases, especially yellow fever and malarial fever, and to take measures to overcome them. The older doctors here when they were medical students would have treated the suggestion of regarding mosquitoes as the prime source of diseases like that as a subject of mirth. These utterly unexpected results have followed patient laborious, dangerous and extraordinary skillful work that has enabled the cause of the disease to be found and the diseases themselves to be combated with extraordinary success.

"At this moment in the middle of the great continent of Africa there is a peculiarly fatal and terrible disease the sleeping sickness, a disease which if it had been known to our ancestors in the middle ages would have been spoken of as the black death was spoken of in the middle ages—as a scourge of God, possibly as something connected with a comet, or some similar explanation would have been advanced. We all know that it is due to the carrying of a small and deadly blood parasite by a species of biting fly.

"And the chance to control that disease lies in the work of just such men as, and indeed, of some of the men who, are assembled here. You who have come here, however, have come to combat not a scourge confined to the tropics, but what is on the whole the most terrible scourge of the people throughout the world. But a few years ago hardly an intelligent effort was made or could be made to war against this peculiarly deadly enemy of the human race. The chance successfully to conduct that war arose when the greatest experts in the medical world turned their trained intelligence to the task. It remains for them to find out just what can be done.

"I feel that no gathering could take place fraught with greater hope for the welfare of the people at large than this. I thank you all, men and women of this country, and you, our guests, for what you have done and are doing. On behalf of the nation I greet you, and I hope you will understand how much we have appreciated your coming here."

## THE GOV'T CROP REPORT

Condition is 69.7 and Number of Bales Ginned 2,282,000.

Washington, Special.—Crop condition, 69.7; number of bales ginned, 2,282,000. These are the reports issued by the government Friday morning, the crop condition being based until September 20th and number of bales ginned until September 25th.

Compared with the reports issued on the same date last year the crop condition is 2 per cent higher and the number of bales ginned one million less. The reports had an inappreciable effect on the market.

The variance in the number of bales ginned this and last year is attributed to the fact that the weather this fall has been much more favorable to the gathering of the staple than at the same time last season. In many sections of the country it is stated that a large part of the crop has been gathered.

### Cotton Ginned During Year.

Washington, Special.—The census bureau Friday announced that 2,582,688 bales of cotton had been ginned from the growth of 1908 to September 25th, as compared with 1,532,602 to the corresponding date last year. The number of active ginneries reporting is 23,650.

### Condition of Cotton Crop.

The crop reporting board of the bureau of statistics of the department of Agriculture reports the average condition of the crop on September 25th at 69.7, as compared with 76.1 on August 25th and 67.7 on September 25th, 1907. North Carolina 69; South Carolina, 68; Georgia, 71, and Texas, 71.

### New Georgia Railroad Opened.

Valdosta, Ga., Special.—The Georgia & Florida Railway, a newly constructed line running from this place 100 miles northwest to Hazehurst, was formally opened to the public Friday. A special train brought 500 representative citizens from points along the line to this city. Work is rapidly progressing with a view to uniting the newly constructed road with other divisions now in operation, which will give a new short line between Madison, Fla., and Augusta, Ga.

### Lincolnton Men Interested in New York Corporation.

New York, Special.—According to official report of the Secretary of State "The Mutual Farm Commission of New York City," capital \$10,000 has filed articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State at Albany with permission to increase capital to \$200,000. The directors chosen are named as Daniel E. Rhyne and James A. Abernethy, of Lincolnton, North Carolina, and Frank Guy Hull, of 1644 Nineteenth avenue, Brooklyn.

### To Extend Trolley Line.

Spartanburg, S. C., Special.—The street car company will soon begin the work of extending its North Church trolley line to the fair grounds. Preliminary work is now under way and a large force of hands will be put to work shortly and the laying of the rails will be rushed. The county fair will open November 3rd and continue until the 6th.

### Indictment of T. Jenkins Hains.

New York, Special.—District Attorney Dorrin appeared before the grand jury in Queens county and demanded the indictment of T. Jenkins Hains as accessory before the fact in the murder of William E. Annis, who was shot and killed by Peter C. Hains. The principal witness against him before the grand jury was Mrs. Annis, widow of the victim.

### Four Killed on Ohio Central.

Toledo, O., Special.—Four persons are dead and two fatally and three seriously injured as a result of a wreck on the Ohio Central Railroad at Sugar Ridge, when an extra freight train plunged into the rear of a special passenger train. The dead are George Gosler, Richard Rideout, Thomas Crane and Leslie Fuller.

## WAR CLOUDS LOWER

### Outlook is For Swift Beginning of Hostilities

#### ONLY SMALL NATIONS INVOLVED

London Hears News From Several Sources That Two Crises Are Impending Which May Force Hostilities in the Near Future.

London, By Cable.—Events which threaten to change the political face of Europe are crystalizing with lightning rapidity. Almost over night the horizon of the Near East, which seemed gradually to be assuming a peaceful appearance, has become crowded with war clouds.

News has reached here from several sources that two definite strokes are impending which cannot fail to bring matters to a crisis, and perhaps force an immediate war. One is the proclamation by Prince Ferdinand, of the independence of Bulgaria, which will include Rumelia, taking for himself the title of "Czar." The other is an announcement of Austro-Hungary of the practical annexation of the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina as appendages of the Austro-Hungarian crown.

Either action will be equivalent to the leasing up of the treaty of Berlin while Prince Ferdinand's course seems almost certain to precipitate a war between Bulgaria and Turkey. Before these possibilities the quarrel over the East Rumelin section of the Orient Railway sinks into insignificance. Both armies are reported to be quietly and swiftly mobilizing near the borders. Bulgarians are said to be buying munitions and horses on an extensive scale.

Bulgarians have faith in their army, which has reached a high state of efficiency although it is perhaps lacking in officers and the war, for which Bulgaria has long been suspected of preparing, could be fought with more advantage for her now than when the Turkish government had time to reorganize its forces, which have become enervated by the corruption and neglect of the old regime.

The Emperor of Austria, it is understood, has despatched a letter to the President of France, setting forth his intentions regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina, although the contents of the letter are kept secret, and he is sending similar notes to the other powers.

It seems incredible that Emperor Francis Joseph, who always has been a scrupulous observer of forms, should reveal his plans to the rulers of other nations before he has communicated them to his own Parliament. One explanation is that the letter was not intended for delivery until Tuesday, when identical notes would be presented to the other powers.

Austria is suspected of encouraging the recent Bulgarian-Turkish trouble for her own interests, but the British government has made proposals to the two countries looking to the settlement of the railway case, under which the other powers have agreed to give support to the plan, which contemplates the temporary restoration of the way to Turkey "to save her face," and then transference of the company to the Bulgarian government.

The English press expresses surprise that Austria and Bulgaria should plot against Turkey and asks if the great powers will submit to having obstacles placed in the way of the regeneration of Turkey.

### General Wright Selected.

Washington, Special.—President Roosevelt will designate General Luke E. Wright, Secretary of War, as the government's official representative at the Southern commercial congress, which will convene in this city December 7th and 8th just prior to the national rivers and harbors congress.